

U-BOAT SINKING SHIPS TWICE AS FAST AS BUILT

British Admiralty in Frank Review Pleads for More Rapid Construction.

11,827,572 TONS LOST

Chairman Hurley of Shipping Board Expected to Rouse America With Speech.

WASHINGTON, March 21.—Despite anti-submarine measures the undersea boats are destroying ships twice as fast as the world's shipyards are building them, this was revealed by the publication today of a report by the British Admiralty, which shows that the tonnage of ships sunk by submarines in the first nine months of 1917 was 11,827,572 tons, or twice as much as in the corresponding period of 1916.

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Rate of Destruction Decreases.

The British official figures published unexpectedly, when every one thought they would be withheld indefinitely, because of the supposed need for secrecy, show that the rate of submarine destruction has decreased from the beginning of the war in 1914 to the beginning of 1917.

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Labor Troubles Delay British.

Labor troubles in Great Britain, according to confidential advice, have caused serious delays in production.

While the vast majority of American workers have rallied to the support of the fighting forces, their fellows in the British Isles admittedly have lessened their efforts as their pay increased.

There was a bare 55,000 tons of ships produced in Great Britain in January and 100,000 tons in February, both months far short of the amount necessary for the programme of 1,500,000 tons a year to be carried out.

Mr. Hurley's speech in New York will be one of the most important revelations of the war, because it is understood he proposes to tell the country exactly what is being done and how the British Government is doing it.

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United Action Emphasized.

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BOLSHEVIK DEFEAT COSSACKS IN SIBERIA

Blagovieshtchensk Recaptured—German Aggressions Causing Panic.

FRANCIS ISSUES APPEAL

Urges Russians to Continue Resistance—Business Paralyzed.

By the Associated Press.

Moscow, March 20 (delayed).—Red guards and revolutionary troops have recaptured Blagovieshtchensk after a battle with the Cossacks. They have restored the Soviet authority, as well as order, in the town.

Recent despatches said that the Siberian Bolsheviks had murdered a number of Japanese at Blagovieshtchensk, which lies 500 miles north of Khabarovsk. The Bolsheviks, including the President of the local Soviet later were arrested and imprisoned by the Cossacks and volunteers.

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M'ADOO TO CONTROL RAILROAD OUTLAYS

Extensions and Improvements to Be Subject to Rigid Supervision.

SOME EXCEPTIONS MADE

Order Designed to Conserve Supply of Labor and Material During War.

Special Despatch to The Sun.

WASHINGTON, March 21.—With the signing of the railroad bill by President Wilson today, Director-General of Railroads McAdoo issued an order applying to all roads under the control of the Government that construction of new lines or extension of present lines during the war must be subject to rigid supervision.

The order, which is being distributed to all roads, provides that no new line or extension of a present line shall be constructed or extended without the approval of the Director-General.

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U.S. MAY TAKE OVER TIMBER LAND

Senators Would Commandeer Forests and Suppress I. W. W. Activities.

LET ARMY HANDLE THEM

Chamberlain Explains Necessity of Government Assuming Control of Supplies.

Special Despatch to The Sun.

WASHINGTON, March 21.—The Senate discussed briefly today the bill proposed by the Administration for commandeering forests and timber supplies of the United States which was favorably reported several weeks ago by the Senate Committee on Military Affairs and later withdrawn for revision.

Chairman Chamberlain, back on duty after his recent illness, volunteered an explanation of the necessity for the Government assuming control of the whole problem of timber supply by saying there had been great difficulty encountered by reason of I. W. W. activities in the Western lumber country.

"I do not know," said Senator Chamberlain, "whether they have been guilty of any overt acts either in destruction of lives or property, but conditions grew so desperate in Oregon and parts of Washington that men were afraid to go into the forests."

He defined the necessary military service as non-combatant services in which conscientious objectors may participate.

Service in the Medical Corps where conscientious objectors are needed in the sanitary detachments attached to combatant units at the front; service in the divisional sanitary trains composed of ambulance companies and field hospitals; and service in the medical depots and repair in the Medical Department.

Senator Jones (Wash.) wanted to know whether the Government was having difficulty in obtaining lumber from owners.

"I have received word from Washington," said Senator Jones, "that it is believed that although conditions at present indicate that the I. W. W. are under control, the unrest and disorder is likely to break out this summer worse than before. The force of the military should be felt there and be ready to meet this situation as it arises and to suppress that agency which is doing more evil, more to hinder and delay the Government than anything else."

In one of the mills at Aberdeen, Wash., a huge spruce log sent into a mill wrecked the entire saw machinery when the whirling disk struck an iron band which had been driven into the log. Not only were both the log and the saw ruined, but the mill was put out of commission for several days.

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CHINESE SOLDIERS ROBBING RUSSIANS

Fraternizing With Bolsheviks on Manchurian Frontier.

By the Associated Press.

HARBIN, March 21.—It is reported that Chinese troops on the Manchurian frontier are robbing Russians and fraternizing with the Bolsheviks. It is alleged by observers that western Siberia is already completely under German control. Omak banks, shops, newspapers and public utilities are under German influence. German prisoners are being released and are able to travel about freely. They are holding reunions and regaining the confidence of the people.

There has been a marked rise in the value of the ruble in prospect of Japanese intervention. Banks are compelled to purchase rubles in Japan, where they have been "cornered."

WAR OBJECTORS' STATUS IS DEFINED

President Rules They Must Be Assigned to Non-Combatant Service.

Special Despatch to The Sun.

WASHINGTON, March 21.—President Wilson in an executive order governing the service of war objectors has ruled that they must render to the nation in war time. They will not be assigned duty requiring them to participate in the actual fighting, but will be employed in the so-called non-combatant service, which admittedly will at times expose them to the dangers of battle.

The President has dealt with conscientious objectors as a special class requiring special treatment and in some instances special surveillance by the military authorities.

Service in the Medical Corps where conscientious objectors are needed in the sanitary detachments attached to combatant units at the front; service in the divisional sanitary trains composed of ambulance companies and field hospitals; and service in the medical depots and repair in the Medical Department.

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WAR FINANCE BILL PASSED BY HOUSE

Will Be Rushed to Conference to Prepare Way for Liberty Loan.

Special Despatch to The Sun.

WASHINGTON, March 21.—With the war finance corporation bill passed by only two dissenting votes out of 369 in the House today another great financial measure will be put on the Congressional ways next week to be rushed through before the Liberty Loan campaign opens, April 6.

A request for another great authorization of war bonds will be presented to the House Saturday by the Treasury Department Chairman Kitchin of the House Ways and Means Committee said today.

The exact amount of the request or the amount of interest future loans will carry has not been finally determined by the Treasury Department Mr. Kitchin said. Other members of the committee said they believed the committee and the Secretary would agree on 4 1/2 per cent.

"I believe the interest of future loans will be more than 4 per cent," said Mr. Kitchin. "The authorization of the war finance corporation bill will be for not more than \$10,000,000; it is certain to be more than \$5,000,000."